

NON-PUBLIC?: N  
ACCESSION #: 8907100037  
LICENSEE EVENT REPORT (LER)

FACILITY NAME: Millstone Nuclear Power Station Unit 1 PAGE: 1 OF 2

DOCKET NUMBER: 05000245

TITLE: Condenser Low Vacuum Scram  
EVENT DATE: 06/02/89 LER #: 89-015-00 REPORT DATE: 06/30/89

OPERATING MODE: N POWER LEVEL: 001

THIS REPORT IS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF 10 CFR  
SECTION  
50.73(a)(2)(iv)

LICENSEE CONTACT FOR THIS LER:  
NAME: M. J. Bigiarelli, Asst. Engineering Supervisor TELEPHONE: 203-447-1791  
Ext. 5405

COMPONENT FAILURE DESCRIPTION:  
CAUSE: A SYSTEM: JC COMPONENT: MANUFACTURER:  
REPORTABLE TO NPRDS: N

SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT EXPECTED: No

#### ABSTRACT:

On June 2, 1989 at 1037 hours during reactor startup, a reactor scram occurred due to main condenser low vacuum. At the time of the event, reactor conditions were 580 psig and 480 degrees F at approximately one (1) percent power. The cause of the event was lack of attention to detail on the part of the reactor operator. The plant responded as designed and all applicable post-scram procedures were correctly followed. There were no consequences.

END OF ABSTRACT

TEXT PAGE 2 OF 2

#### I. Description of Event

On June 2, 1989 at 1037 hours, during reactor start-up, a reactor scram occurred due to main condenser low vacuum. At the time of the event, reactor conditions were 580 psig and 480 degrees F at approximately one (1) percent power. Following the scram, all

plant systems responded as designed and all actions required by plant procedures were carried out satisfactorily.

## II. Cause of Event

The root cause of the event was inattention to detail on the part of licensed Operations personnel on shift. Additionally, it was noted that the operating shift included a newly upgraded Senior Control Operator and that the Shift Supervisor was out in the plant during the period when condenser vacuum was being established.

## III. Analysis of Event

This event is reportable pursuant to 10CFR50.73(a)(2) (iv). Technical Specification 3.1 requires a reactor scram to be automatically initiated whenever main condenser vacuum is less than or equal to 23 inches of mercury and reactor pressure is greater than 600 psig. This action anticipates a condition where the main condenser can no longer handle heat input from the reactor. The low condenser vacuum scram is a back-up to the Turbine Stop Valve closure scram and causes a scram before the stop valves are closed, resulting in a less severe transient for loss of condenser vacuum from rated conditions.

Plant operating procedures require verification by the reactor operator that condenser vacuum is greater than 23 inches of mercury and the "Condenser Low Vacuum" annunciator has cleared prior to reaching a reactor pressure of 600 psig. For the event in question, these conditions were not met, resulting in a reactor scram.

## IV. Corrective Action

Applicable sections of ONP 502, Emergency Plant Shutdown, were successfully carried out.

This event has been reviewed with respect to the adequacy of plant operating procedures and the operator training program. Millstone 1 believes that sufficient training and procedural guidance exist to prevent recurrence of this event. Additionally, a change to Operations Department Instruction 1-OPS-2.01, Shift Assignments and Schedule, has been implemented. This change formalizes the requirement for the Shift Supervisor to closely monitor plant conditions and to minimize his time outside the control room during start-ups, shutdowns, and abnormal plant conditions, especially during periods when the operating shift is comprised of newly

upgraded personnel or personnel who have worked a limited amount of time together.

This event has been discussed in detail with the operators involved. Based on the performance records of the personnel involved, it has been determined that no disciplinary action is appropriate.

#### V. Additional Information

Similar Events: None

System Code: Plant Protection System, JC

ATTACHMENT 1 TO 8907100037 PAGE 1 OF 1

NORTHEAST UTILITIES General Offices - Selden Street  
Berlin Connecticut  
NU The Connecticut Light And Power Company  
Western Massachusetts Electric Company P.O. BOX 270  
Holyoke Water Power Company HARTFORD. CONNECTICUT 06414-0270  
Northeast Utilities Service Company  
Northeast Nuclear Energy Company (203)665-5000

June 30, 1989  
MP-13260

Re: 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(iv)

U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Document Control Desk  
Washington, D.C. 20555

Reference: Facility Operating Licensee No DPR-21  
Docket No. 50-245  
Licensee Event Report 89-015-00

Gentlemen:

This letter forwards Licensee Event Report 89-015-00 required to be submitted within thirty (30) days pursuant to the requirements of 10CFR50.73(a)(2)(iv).

Very truly yours,

NORTHEAST NUCLEAR ENERGY COMPANY

Stephen E. Scace  
Station Superintendent  
Millstone Nuclear Power Station

SES/MJB:mo

Attachment: LER 89-015-00

cc: W. T. Russell, Region I  
W. J. Raymond, Senior Resident Inspector

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